

## These Stars Are All The Same A Survey of Constellations by David J. Keffer

As astrophysicists have long known, stars are alive. Stars are born and they work, converting matter into energy. When their work is done, they die. Like their celestial constituents, constellations also live. Constellations love, they weep, they battle the seemingly infinite expanse of cosmic ennui in which they are enveloped. In this light-hearted novel, Boötes, who chases the great bear, Ursa Major, decides he has had enough. Boötes long ago lost his enthusiasm for the task and his hunting hounds in Canes Venatici are existential drug addicts, who cannot be relied upon to provide additional encouragement. So Boötes calls the chase off, starting a sequence of events that throws all of the constellations in the heavens out of kilter. Aries the ram abandons his post in the House of Mars to serve as Boötes' steed as he roams the celestial panorama. Accompanied by an earthly traveling companion, Boötes explores the heavenly realm, paying visits to many of the other constellations, listening to their laments while constructing for himself a path toward a new, more fulfilling destiny.

These Stars Are All The Same contains all known fragments of A Catalogue of Lovers, which is the maternal counter-part to A Manual of Sons from the novel, The Dead Father by Donald Barthelme, published eighteen years earlier in 1975.



### About the Author

David Keffer is a professor at the University of Tennessee and an autodidact in the realm of world literature. He has currently published 8 novels and 3 illustrated stories at the Poison Pie Publishing House.

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A Survey of Constellations



by David J. Keffer

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